

CARTSNEWS

The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Note that this is issue number 20 of CARTSNEWS! That must mean CARTS has been in existence for five years now. It doesn't seem that long.

During these past five years I have been able to add greatly to my own collection of Carolina tokens, thanks largely to the meetings we have held twice yearly – for the past four years. If you have not yet attended a meeting, why not **come to Statesville on the 8th**? I can guarantee that you will see more North and South Carolina tokens than you will find anywhere else.

And thanks to these meetings, and articles from CARTSNEWS, my meager knowledge of Carolina tokens has increased greatly. I just checked the back issues and note that Lamar Bland, Tony Chibbaro, Joe Elrod, Bob King and Don Bailey are the only people to have contributed articles over the past five years. I'm sure that **every** member has some information they could share. And no doubt some other member (or members) would find that information helpful. So write it up and send it along to your editor. You'll be glad you did – well certainly I'll be glad you did.

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Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know!
Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all CARTS members. I hope this message finds you enjoying the coin show season in the Carolinas. Note that I didn't say football season. But I hope you are enjoying that also. The autumn months bring coin shows to our area as well as football and falling leaves. Several shows in South Carolina and North Carolina occur during these months, including the two state association shows (NCNA and SCNA). Both of the latter are held in October and are two of the largest and best-attended shows in the area. If you haven't attended one or both of these shows, you should try to do so, as the amount and variety of numismatic items for sale is staggering. As I write this, I have just gotten back from the NCNA show in Hickory, complete with a pocket full of interesting tokens and medals.

And if you're looking for interesting tokens and medals, please don't miss our upcoming CARTS meeting held on **November 8**. It is only a couple weeks away. Please mark your calendars so you won't miss it. The meeting will be held in **Statesville, North Carolina** at the **Econo Lodge (I-40, exit 151)** from 9am to 1pm. (See map below.) I hope to see everyone there.

Regards,
Tony Chibbaro, CARTS President



THE HOPEDALE STORE TOKEN: ALAMANCE COUNTY, N.C.

Lamar Bland

The Hopedale Store token shown surfaced only recently.



Hopedale / (prop) / Store (within a beaded circle) // Good For / 5c / In Trade (within a beaded circle) – R, Br, 21 mm

An Alamance County native has had a number of these tokens in his possession for many years; he believes they are at least 100 years old. Although he bought them from a descendant of the family which operated the Hopedale Store, he does not seem familiar with their historical context.

Industry actually started at the Hopedale site under the initiative of Jesse Gant, and Ben, John, and William Trollinger – in 1832, as High Falls Manufacturing. But different owners would take over as the mill continued production. In the 1890's it operated as Juanita Mills, until it was sold a few years later to the James Williamson family.

According to a *Charlotte News and Observer* “Cotton Mill” newspaper published in 1918, the “Hopedale” name was not given to the mill until 1911. Author Julian Hughes (1965) says that the name refers to the town in Massachusetts where Draper looms were produced (*The Development of the Textile Industry in Alamance County: Evolution of Warp and Weft in Alamance*). By 1918, Hopedale Mill employed 138 workers, who lived near the mill, attended their village church, and sent children to their neighborhood school. The Hopedale operation continued until 1920, when Consolidated Textile Corporation bought the property (Hughes). Later, in 1941, the buildings were purchased and re-named Copland Industries. James Copland, the current CEO of Copland Fabrics, indicates that there was an existing store

when his grandfather Jim Copland purchased the property. The elder Copland had that store demolished.

The Charlotte newspaper named James N. Williamson, Jr. as the president and promoter of village life at Hopedale Mills. Researcher Bob King indicates that Williamson was a prolific North Carolina businessman who owned general stores in several towns in the early 1910s and later sold groceries wholesale. In the 1920s he sold autos, marine supplies and sporting goods. His photograph below was published in the 1918 newspaper.



JAMES WILLIAMSON

Williamson, therefore, probably built Hopedale Store and issued the token for use there sometime between 1911 and 1920. Although the token resembles other “good for” coinage issued in the 1930s, it does not seem likely that Consolidated Textile Corporation would have introduced a token which referred to the mill’s previous identity.

Such a historical context places the Hopedale Store token in the middle of the longest continually running textile operation in North Carolina.

Special thanks for help given by Jerrie Nall and Kathy Berry at the Textile Heritage Museum in Glencoe Mill Village, Burlington, N.C.

New Finds from South Carolina

Tony Chibbaro

I haven't made any finds in the last three months that are really new in the truest sense, but I have been able to obtain a couple of tokens for which I was able to develop new information. The first token is an Ingle System token that had been cataloged by Lloyd Wagaman in his 1987 book on Ingle System Scrip. In that reference he listed a 50 cents token from G.W. Gardner but did not offer an attribution to city and state. The discovery of the Ingle System ledger by Jack Siles a few years ago enabled collectors to attribute thousands of maverick Ingle System tokens, and this merchant was identified in that ledger as having been located in Rock Hill, South Carolina.



I listed the 50 cents token from G.W. Gardner in my *Third Supplement to South Carolina Tokens* back in 2004 on the basis of Wagaman's previous information but had never seen an actual specimen. Then a few weeks ago at a coin show I was able to obtain a 50 cents token from Gardner. Whether it was the exact same token cataloged by Wagaman 21 years ago is anybody's guess, but it is the first and only one I know about. It is pictured above. The token is made of brass, measures 31mm, and reads as following: G.W. GARDNER / 50 / GROCERIES // (Ingle System 1909 reverse).

At the same coin show I came across a maverick token in a dealer's stock which I certainly knew about and may even have owned in the past, but did not know about the South Carolina connection which it possessed until I saw it written on the dealer's holder. The token I am speaking of is a fairly common lumber token attributed to the town of Crellin, Maryland. The 10 cents specimen in

the dealer's inventory had the following description: KENDALL LUMBER CO. / 10 / NOT TRANSFERABLE // (Orco type I reverse), round, 21mm, nickel-plated brass. Written on the holder was the following: "Sawmills located at Schaeffer, WV; Cheat Haven, PA; and Donora, SC. Main office located at Crellin, Maryland." Needless to say I purchased the token and couldn't wait to get home to do further research.



The first thing I did was turn to Trantow's lumber token book to verify what had been written on the dealer's holder. Sure enough, the information was accurate. Eight different tokens from Kendall Lumber Co. were listed there under the town of Crellin, Maryland and the commentary underneath the listings mentioned the three sawmills in WV, PA, and SC. Company headquarters were shown at Pittsburgh, PA with the main office at Crellin, Maryland. Further research in Dun and Bradstreet mercantile directories showed the mill at Donora in Barnwell County as early as 1914 and as late as 1927. My old standby lumber company reference book, Thomas Feters' *Logging Railroads of South Carolina* mentions the mill and its associated logging railroad, but didn't give much information on the South Carolina operations. The 1920 edition of *The Southern Lumberman's Directory* gave more info, however. It listed a band sawmill of 40,000 foot daily capacity, planing mill, edgers, trimmers, dry kilns, 15 miles of logging railroad, and a commissary. This last tidbit of information is what I had been seeking. Most lumber companies of sufficient size to have multiple miles of logging track and a commissary usually had a need for tokens. The last two normally went hand-in-hand. Commissaries meant tokens and tokens meant commissaries. All eight tokens listed by Trantow are maverick tokens and do not show city and state and they may have been that way on purpose. The city and state address could have been left off of the tokens intentionally because the

tokens may have been meant for use at multiple locations. While it is not 100% certain that these tokens were used in South Carolina, I strongly suspect that they were and I will list them in future compilations of South Carolina tokens.

So-Called Dollars: A South Carolina Primer

Tony Chibbaro

A popular hobby focus in recent years has been an eclectic grouping of commemorative medals collectively known as “so-called dollars.” Originally cataloged by Harold Hibler and Charles Kappen in their 1963 work entitled *So-Called Dollars, An Illustrated Standard Catalog*, this group of medals has gained a widespread collector base over time. The moniker “so-called dollar” comes from the fact that all items cataloged therein are approximately the size of a standard U.S. dollar coin (either gold or silver), or were meant to circulate as or approximate the value of a standard U.S. dollar coin. There are other criteria for inclusion, however, the most notable being that the medal must commemorate a person or historical event deemed to be of national significance.

The popularity of the original catalog has spurred many collectors to concentrate on forming a set or subset of these commemorative medals. The online auction site eBay has assisted by enabling buyers and sellers to come together in an online marketplace, even going so far as establishing a special category for their sale. A second edition of the Hibler & Kappen catalog, complete with an updated rarity system and pricing guide, was made available to collectors in 2008. The publication of this current pricing information has allowed new collectors to share in specialized knowledge which had previously taken many years to accumulate, and has resulted in an increase in the number of collectors chasing after increasingly elusive

specimens. This has added upside pressure to prices on the scarcer pieces and many have reached levels that are multiples of those seen only a few years ago.

Collectors of South Carolina exnumia have been blessed (or cursed, if one looks at it from the level of cost) by having several different medals cataloged in the Hibler & Kappen reference work. Eight medals, struck in a total of twenty different compositional varieties, have been placed in the catalog and it is my intention to enumerate each entry in this article and make applicable comments.



HK-11 The Bombardment of Fort Sumter. This piece is one of the earliest so-called dollars and is thought to have been struck shortly after the Civil War began in 1861. Certain to have originated in the Northern tier of states, the dies for this medal are ascribed to George Lovett, a prominent New York diesinker. I have seen this piece in both copper (HK-11c) and white metal (HK-11). A brass striking (HK-11b) has been noted in Hibler & Kappen, but I have never seen one for sale. All three have been given a rarity rating of R7 in the catalog (11-20 specimens known). Estimated values are \$250-500 in circulated condition and \$500-2000 in mint state.



HK-11a The Bombardment of Fort Sumter, with Eagle reverse. The obverse die for the previous medal was also paired with a different

reverse, one picturing a heraldic eagle surrounded by an oak wreath and Union sympathies. Specimens of this variety are much scarcer than the previous listing, although not mentioned as such in Hibler & Kappen. They list the medal in three compositions: brass (HK-11a), white metal (HK-11d), and copper (HK-11e). The only striking I have seen for sale anywhere is HK-11d in white metal. All three are listed as R7 (11-20 specimens) and valued similarly to strikings of the previous variety (\$250-2000).



HK-93 The Battle of Sullivan's Island. In 1876, in commemoration of the centennial of the United States, diesinker George Lovett of New York designed a series of medals honoring eight early battles of the Revolutionary War. Number 2 in this series was the Battle of Sullivan's Island. Sold by Lovett by subscription, three strikings are noted. A silver striking is cataloged as HK-93 and is rated R8 (5-10 known) and valued at \$400-1200. Bronze specimens (HK-94) are listed as R6 (21-75 known) and \$200-800, while white metal strikings (HK-95) receive R5 ratings (76-200 known) and \$50-600 valuations.

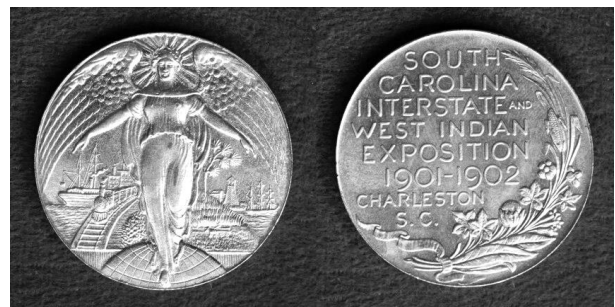


HK-292 The Fort Sumter Dollar. Three different so-called dollars were issued as souvenirs for the South Carolina Interstate & West Indian Exposition. The most common of the three pieces is the Fort Sumter Dollar. Struck by an unnamed Syracuse, NY die-sinking firm, contemporary

newspaper accounts mention planned specimens in gold, sterling, and silver-plated brass. Only the silver-plated brass strikings (HK-292) are listed in Hibler & Kappen. I have not seen any in gold, but do have an untrimmed die trial in brass. Specimens in my own collection that I had previously believed were sterling were weighed recently and I now believe them all to be silver-plated brass. The catalog rates the issue as R6 (21-75 known) and values it at \$50-350.



HK-293 The Liberty Bell Dollar. A little known fact about the Charleston Exposition is that the Liberty Bell was transported by train to Charleston in January 1902 and was on display there for 5 months. A special medallic commemorative piece was struck to sell as a souvenir, most likely in the Philadelphia Building where the national icon was exhibited. Both bronze (HK-293) and white metal (HK-293a) strikes exist. Each is rated R7 (11-20 known) and valued from \$100 to \$600.



HK-294 The Official Medal. The U.S. Mint had an exhibit at the Charleston Exposition, complete with a working press set up to strike medals. The dies for the official medal of the Exposition are thought to have been executed by noted mint engraver George Morgan. Hibler & Kappen list a brass strike as HK-294, but this piece was actually struck in gilt bronze. It is given an R5 rarity rating (76-200 known) and valued between \$100 and \$600. HK-294a is listed as silver (R7, I have not

seen one), HK-295 is listed as white metal (R6, I have not seen this one either), and HK-295a is listed as nickel (R7, I have one of these). All are valued identically to the gilt bronze striking.



HK-412 The South Carolina Exposition Fund Dollar. The Panama-Pacific International Exposition was held in San Francisco, California in 1915. The state of South Carolina sponsored an exhibit in this exposition and special commemorative medals were sold here in South Carolina to fund the cost of the exhibit. Hibler & Kappen list bronze strikes (HK-412) and silver-plated bronze strikes (HK-412a). I have not seen any of the latter. Both are rated R6 (21-75 known) and valued from \$100 to \$800.



HK-621 South Carolina General Assembly Centennial. The S.C. Legislature celebrated its first 100 years of meeting in Columbia during 1891. Special commemorative medallions were issued to mark the event. Copper strikings (HK-621) and white metal strikings (HK-622) are both known. Each one seems to be extremely scarce and both are rated R7 (11-20 known) and valued at \$200-1000.

For more detailed descriptions of the above medals and color photographs please visit my webpage at: <http://www.angelfire.com/sc2/tokenofthemonth/token029/>.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE/TRADE

125 SETS OF SC FOOD STAMP CREDIT TOKENS. There are 1-5 plastic tokens in each set. All sets are attributed to cities. Best Offer takes the lot. Steven Kawalec P.O. Box 4281 Clifton, NJ 07012 owlprowler@aol.com (973) 868-9258.

A SMALL ASSORTMENT OF WORLD TOKENS AND COINS RELATED TO FISH, including a 17th century English lobster token, and Billingsgate "fishmongers." My interests include coffee tokens world-wide, and NC mill and store tokens. Lamar Bland, 22 Sunrise Place, Durham, N.C. 27705 blandl@elon.edu.

WANTED


ODD-SHAPED TRADE TOKENS. Especially ones shaped like cigars, baby chicks, artist palettes, two-headed men, letters of the alphabet, and fans. Top prices paid. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127. 803-252-1881 chibbaro@mindspring.com.

I PAY TOP DOLLAR FOR NORTH CAROLINA TOKENS I NEED. Have great traders if you prefer. Bob King, 709 Cardinal Dr, Brevard, NC 28712 828-883-8028 tokenaddict@citcom.net.

AN ASIDE

Thomas Toms

Forest City, N. C.



The market that runs the year round. I sell fresh meats, fancy groceries, ice, and buy cattle, hides, hogs, poultry and vegetables.

Come to see me. I pay highest price for produce. Up-to-date restaurant. Meals served at all hours.

The ad shown above is from a 1916 Rutherford County directory. It is hard to see the connection between the items Toms sells, and buys, and the image in the ad. But the ad is doubly interesting because Thomas Toms tokens are known from Caroleen, NC. Now it seems a sure bet Thomas Toms tokens from Forest City are out there waiting to be discovered.

CARTS Membership and Dues: Membership in CARTS is open to anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

CARTSNEWS: CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

Advertising: Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected.

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.

DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 1, 2009

Why not send Treasurer Bob King a check now?